

# California Governor's Office of Emergency Services

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY – Severe Weather Flash Flooding, Southern California September 8, 2014 at 1710 hours

## **SITUATION UPDATE:**

- Interstate 40 in San Bernardino is closed 31.5 miles west of Needles at Goffs Road. The estimated time of reopening is unknown.
- As of 1700 hours, Cal OES Southern Region EOC resumed Level 1 activation status; normal operations.

#### **SITUATION OVERVIEW:**

# **Riverside County**

Riverside County has been impacted by Tropical Storm Norbert. Flash flooding and impacts have been experienced by the following communities of Riverside County:

- City of Riverside
- City of Palm Springs
- Thousand Palms

#### **Activations**

• Riverside County EOC is activated at Level 1.

#### **Road Closures**

- U.S. 95 is closed in San Bernardino to northbound traffic at the Nevada state line due to flooding. The estimated time of reopening is unknown.
- Local road closures: http://www.rctlma.org/trans/

#### **Schools**

• Desert Sands Unified: Adams Elementary School was evacuate due to water in electrical room; school must be closed due to lack of power; students evacuated via school buses to District Office to be re-united with parents.

#### Weather Briefing/Forecast

The remnants of what was Hurricane Norbert continue to meander slowly northward off the coast of Baja California. The now post-tropical cyclone is currently forecast to approach the Baja coast late Tuesday (9/9) and Wednesday (9/10). Meanwhile, extensive tropical moisture is in place across the desert southwest with widespread showers and slow-moving thunderstorms (some with very heavy and prolonged rainfall) over AZ, mainly southern NV and southern CA. These showers and thunderstorms may very well continue off and on through at least Wednesday. Flash flood watches and/or warnings are in effect for much of this region. In addition to heavy precipitation at times over the desert southwest, coastal areas are concerned about elevated surf, strong rip currents and possible minor tidal flooding during high tides.

## **Expected Impacts:**

#### • Coastal Impacts:

- Waves and surf 3-6 feet with local sets 8 feet along south facing beaches from Ventura County southward to and including San Diego County.
- o Rip currents: Extensive rip currents along with the waves and surf will make for dangerous swimming and surfing conditions.
- o Flooding: Local minor flooding of low-lying areas possible during high tides

## **Precipitation Amounts:**

Precipitation amounts will be highly variable across the region. Higher terrain over southern CA and the southeast CA deserts may see as much as 1-3" through Wednesday (9/10) with much lesser amounts reaching coastal areas as far west as Ventura, CA.

### **Active Weather Warnings, Watches and Advisories:**

•http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/sto/brief/wwa\_bc\_cal.php

## **Cal OES Actions**

County Warning Points continue to be briefed by the California State Warning Center as severe weather products issued by NWS Weather Forecast Offices evolve.

There are no unmet needs or requests for State assistance at this time.